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E.O. 12958: DECL: 06/01/2016 TAGS: <u>PREL PGOV PM NEA IR</u>

SUBJECT: PANAMA: FOREIGN MINISTER RECEPTIVE TO U.S.

STATEMENT ON IRAN

REF: STATE 87682

Classified By: DCM Luis Arreaga, reasons 1.4 and d.

11. (SBU) Ambassador Eaton delivered talking points (reftel) to FM Samuel Lewis yesterday afternoon. Lewis told Ambassador Eaton that he welcomed the U.S. initiative and would look for an opportunity to make a public statement. Lewis also said he hoped that this bold and welcome step by the U.S. would encourage a diplomatic solution to the worrisome Iranian ambition to obtain nuclear capabilities. EATON